

DURATION OF UNDERGROUND INJECTION WELL ORDERS

- (a) Orders authorizing injection into enhanced recovery injection wells and disposal wells shall remain valid for the life of the well, unless revoked by the Commission for just cause.
- (b) An Order granting underground injection may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated during its term for cause. This may be at the request of any interested person or at the Commission's initiative. All requests shall be in writing and shall contain facts or reasons supporting the request.
- (c) An order may be revoked and reissued or modified, after notice and hearing, if:
 - (1) There is a substantial change of conditions in the enhanced recovery injection well or the disposal well operation, or there are substantial changes in the information originally furnished.
 - (2) Information as to the permitted operation indicates that the cumulative effects on the environment are unacceptable.

3-309 TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY TO INJECT

An Order authorizing an enhanced recovery injection well or disposal well shall not be transferred from one operator to another without the approval of the Commission. The transfer of ownership of an enhanced recovery injection well or disposal well from one operator to another shall be noticed in writing to the Commission, on Form 1073 in triplicate, prior to the proposed transfer date. The Commission shall within thirty (30) days therefrom return a copy of Form 1073 to the former operator and the new operator designating approval or denial of the transfer of authority to inject for the subject well. A copy of the Order authorizing injection shall be attached to the returned form.

APPLICATION OF A. L. DUTTON, MANAGER OF)
OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION DIVISION, FOR)
A GENERAL ORDER AMENDING THE COMMISSION'S)
GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS TO THE CON-)
SERVATION OF OIL AND GAS AND POLLUTION)
ABATEMENT CONTAINED IN GENERAL ORDER NOS.)
83168, 87829, 93381, 93382, 94418,)
102096, 109595, 117899, 128534, 128781,)
138348, 151077, 161968, 164345, 164347)
AND 165935.)

CAUSE C. D. NO. 76094

ORDER NO. 187372

HEARINGS: January 9, 1981 (pre-hearing conference), January 23, 1981, continued in part to February 11, 1981 (pre-hearing conference), continued in part to April 20, 1981 (pre-hearing conference) and May 4, 1981

APPEARANCES: Omitted - see official record in Commission file

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

This matter came on for hearing before the Commission en banc in the Commission Courtroom, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on the dates specified above, pursuant to notice as prescribed by law and the rules of the Commission. Consideration of Exhibit No. 23 was continued to February 11, 1981 and continued further to April 20, 1981 (pre-hearing conference), and May 4, 1981.

Proposed rules and proposed rule changes to Oklahoma Corporation Commission Oil and Gas Rules were submitted by the Commission staff and other interested parties. Opportunity for comment on the proposed rules was provided at the pre-hearing conference set for January 9, 1981, and written comments were received and considered prior to and at the hearing set for January 23, 1981.

The Commission has reviewed, examined and considered the proposals presented by all interested parties and being fully advised in the premises finds as follows:

FINDINGS

1. The Commission has jurisdiction of the subject matter, of the parties and jurisdiction to enter this order.
2. Based upon full consideration of the proposals, evidence and arguments of interested parties, parties and staff, the Commission hereby finds that Order Nos. 161968 and 164345 entered in Cause No. CD 63872 on January 3, 1980, and February 14, 1980, respectively, and Order No. 164347, entered in Cause No. CD 60368 on February 14, 1980, and Order No. 165935, entered in Cause No. 63873 on March 17, 1980, should be amended by adopting the proposed rules and regulations as set out in Exhibit A attached to this order.
3. The rules and regulations hereinafter set out should become effective immediately upon its issuance.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Corporation Commission of the State of Oklahoma as follows:

1. Order Nos. 161968 and 164345, entered in Cause No. CD 63872 on January 3, 1980, and February 14, 1980, respectively, and Order No. 164347, entered in Cause No. CD 60368 on February 14, 1980, and Order No. 165935, entered in Cause No. CD 63873 on

March 17, 1980, are hereby amended by adopting the proposed rules and regulations as set out in Exhibit A attached to this Order.

2. This Order shall become effective immediately upon its issuance.


3. The Conservation Division is hereby authorized and directed to publish the rules and regulations set forth in Exhibit A as prescribed by law.

4. The Commission retains jurisdiction of all other proposals submitted in this cause and will issue further orders with respect to such other proposals at some future time.

DONE AND PERFORMED THIS 2 DAY OF April, 1981.

OKLAHOMA CORPORATION COMMISSION


Hamp Baker, Chairman


Bill Dawson, Vice-Chairman


Norma Eagleton, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Berdea S. Holt, Secretary

EXHIBIT "A"

PROPOSED RULES AND PROPOSED CHANGES TO EXISTING RULES

To include within Rule 3-121 (Informal Complaints) the following language:

Rules 3-121. If, upon information or inspection, it is found that an operator, processor, refiner, or transporter of oil or gas is violating any rule or order of the Commission or causing damage or pollution to any oil or gas formation, surface or underground fresh water, the Conservation Division shall cause an investigation to be made, and shall file a written administrative complaint, in duplicate, on Form 1036, and one copy of Form 1036 shall be delivered or mailed to the operator. If, upon subsequent inspection it is determined that the operator has taken the corrective actions specified the complaint shall be dismissed; otherwise, formal application will be made to the Commission for an order shutting down the lease or well, and for any other appropriate remedy; pending the outcome of the final determination of the Commission on the formal application, any District Manager shall, after an on-site inspection, have the authority to shut down those operations where conditions appear obvious that surface or underground pollution is occurring.

To include within Rule 3-203, a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

Rule 3-203 (d). Each operator of a well in an area known by the operator to contain lethal amounts of hydrogen sulfide shall provide safeguards to protect the general public from the harmful effects of hydrogen sulfide. For above-ground and fixed surface facilities, the operator shall post, where permitted by law, clearly visible warning signs on access roads or public streets, or roads which provide direct access to facilities located within 100 feet of the well location. In populated areas where the use of signs is not considered to be acceptable, an alternative warning plan may be approved upon written request to the Commission. For buried lines subject to this rule, the operator shall comply with the following:

1. A marker sign shall be installed at public road crossings.
2. Marker signs shall be installed along the line, when it is located within a public area or along a public road, at intervals frequent enough in the judgment of the operator so as to provide warning to avoid the accidental rupturing of the line by excavation.
3. The marker sign shall contain sufficient information to establish the ownership and existence of the line and shall indicate by the use of the words "Poison Gas" that a potential danger exists. Markers installed in compliance with the regulations of the Federal Department of Transportation shall satisfy the requirements of this provision. Marker signs installed prior to the effective date of this rule shall be acceptable provided they indicate the existence of a potential hazard.

New signs constructed to satisfy this rule shall use the language of "Caution" and "Poison Gas" with a black and yellow color contrast. Colors shall satisfy Table I of American National Standard Institute Standard 253.1-1967. Signs installed to satisfy this rule are to be compatible with the regulations of the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

To include within the Allocated Well Allowable Table, the following language:

ALLOCATED WELL ALLOWABLE TABLE*
 (100 percent of market demand)

AVERAGE DEPTH OF POOL/FEET**	10				
	or less	20	40	80	160

*Allowables currently are established at 200 percent of market demand. To determine the allowable for any well, the number in the appropriate column of the chart must be doubled (multiplied by 2).

**The average producing depth of the pool is assumed to be the depth in feet from the surface of the ground to the top of pay in the discovery well in that pool.

To include within the Discovery Well Allowable Table, the following language:

DISCOVERY WELL ALLOWABLE TABLE
 (100 percent of market demand)

<u>DEPTH*</u>	<u>BARRELS</u>	<u>DAYS AFTER</u>
	<u>PER DAY</u>	
		<u>DISCOVERY</u>

*The depth of the discovery pool well is assumed to be the depth in feet from the surface of the ground to the top of the pay in the initial discovery well.

To include in Rule 3-203 (c), the following language:

Rule 3-203 (c). In case of a fire or blow-out, the operator shall immediately notify the Director of Conservation, the Manager of Field Operations or the appropriate District Office by telephone or telegraph.

Rule 2-320 shall be amended to read as follows:

Rule 2-320, SPECIAL ALLOCATED GAS POOLS,

(a) An allowable shall be assigned to each gas well in each Special Allocated Pool in accordance with the pool rules. In each Special Allocated Pool, except Pool No. 182, Guymon Hugoton, no well including those with allowable penalty orders shall be assigned an allowable less than 150 mcf/day.

(b) If a compressor is installed to compress gas from a single well in a special allocated pool such well shall be assigned a double minimum allowable of 300 mcf/day upon submission of a notarized affidavit to the Director of Conservation, with notice thereof to all offset operators and upon approval thereof; provided, however, in the event a written protest is received from an offset operator within ten days after receipt of such affidavit, a hearing shall be had and such allowable may be granted only upon a finding that correlative rights will be adequately protected. No allowable penalty order shall apply to this double minimum allowable.

(c) Each Special Allocated Pool shall use a "basic allowable" as determined in Paragraph 2-320 (d) to determine cancellation of underage and shut-in status for overage.

(d) The "basic allowable" for each well in a Special Allocated Pool shall be determined in January of each year as follows:

(1) The three highest field factors (the monthly factor determined from Pool nominations which establishes allowables for the month) for the previous year shall be determined and averaged for each pool.

(2) The individual well factor, with any applicable penalty applied, for each well in each pool (as determined by Pool Rules) shall be multiplied by the field factor determined in (1) above. The resulting figure shall be the well's "basic allowable" in MCF and shall be used only to determine the maximum overage and underage a well may carry.

(3) If a well is classified as a minimum well, the minimum pool allowable shall be used as the "basic allowable". If a test has not been filed for a well in a pool in which the test is a factor in the allowable determination (and the well is currently receiving no allowable), the "basic allowable" shall also be the minimum pool allowable until a proper test is received.

(4) Should a well be assigned a double minimum allowable under Rule 2-320 (b), the double minimum allowable shall be used as the "basic allowable".

(5) In the Guymon Hugoton Pool (Pool 182) the basic allowable shall be used for the determination of overage in the case of minimum wells only, and the basic allowable for minimum wells shall be the minimum pool allowable for January.

(e) Whenever overage accumulated by a well in a Special Allocated Pool exceeds six (6) times the well's "basic allowable", the Director of Conservation shall notify the operator in writing, and the well shall not produce more than twenty-five (25%) percent of the well's current allowable until all of the overage in excess of six (6) times the well's "basic allowable" has been made up. In the event the operator fails to limit production as herein provided, the well shall be ordered shut in by the Commission upon application of the Director of Conservation and after notice and hearing.

(f) When underage accumulated by the well exceeds six (6) times the well's "basic allowable" for the preceeding January, all underage credited to the well shall be cancelled, and the well shall not thereafter accumulate underage until such time as the well produces a current allowable for any one month. Any cancelled underage may be reinstated administratively by the Director of Conservation to any well in any overproduced status, within six (6) months after cancellation by application on Form 1010.

(g) All provisions in special pool rules heretofore established which are in conflict with sub-sections (e) and (f) of this rule are hereby superseded by this rule, except those listed in (h) and (i).

(h) The Red Oak Fanshaw, Red Oak Red Oak, and Red Oak Spiro Pools (Pools 456, 457, and 458), situated in Latimer and LeFlore Counties, Oklahoma, shall use twenty-four times (24X) basic allowable to determine maximum overage and three times (3X) basic allowable to determine maximum underage.

(i) The Special Allocated Pools whose allowables are based upon volumetric withdrawals shall not be subject to the provisions of this rule.

To include in Rule 3-203 (b) the following language:

Rule 3-203 (b). Within thirty (30) days after the completion of any producing oil or gas well, a sign shall be posted and maintained at the location showing operator of the well and the operator's business phone number, name of farm, number of the well, and legal description of the well; provided, however, where more than one well is producing on a lease, the operator may post and maintain a sign at the principal lease entrance showing lease name, operator, legal description, number of wells; and on each well designate the number of the well. Within thirty (30) days after completion or recompletion of an enhanced recovery injection well or a disposal well, a sign shall be posted and maintained at the well location, showing operator of well, name of farm, well number, legal description of the well and the Commission Order Number by which it was authorized. The legal description of each well completed on or after March 1, 1976, shall be posted at the well and shall describe the location of the well to the nearest quarter quarter section and shall show the section, township and range. On a 160 acre or larger drilling and spacing unit a sign shall also be posted at the entrance to the well site.

3-110.1 USE OF ON-SITE EARTHEN PITS

(a) An earthen pit serving only the lease or unit on which it is located is defined as an on-site pit. An on-site earthen pit used for the handling, storage or disposal of any deleterious substance produced, obtained, or used in connection with the drilling or operation of wells, shall be constructed of, or sealed with, an impervious material, and shall be used and operated at all times so as to prevent any escape of any deleterious substance.

(b) No on-site earthen pit shall be constructed, enlarged, reconstructed, or used until the District Office has issued a written permit for its use and assigned a permit number. The operator shall file form 1014, in triplicate, with the appropriate District Office.

When approved, one copy will be returned to the operator as a permit which shall bear the permit number assigned. The operator shall post a waterproof sign bearing the name of the operator and the permit number within 25 feet of the pit.

(c) Every on-site earthen pit not having a permit and permit number shall be emptied and leveled.

(d) Paragraph (b) and (c) above, shall not apply to:

(1) An emergency pit constructed solely to prevent escape of substances. Provided, an emergency pit shall not be constructed in pervious soil unless lined, and shall never be used for the storage of any substance.

(2) A circulating, frac or reserve mud pit used in drilling, deepening, testing, reworking or plugging a well while such operations are in progress. Each reserve pit shall be leveled within twelve (12) months after drilling operations cease. One six-month extension may be granted by the District Manager for reasonable cause. Each circulating pit shall be emptied and leveled within sixty (60) days after the drilling operations cease. Each fracture pit shall be emptied and leveled within sixty (60) days after completion of fracture operations. Provided, however, upon application, notice and hearing, and not less than ten (10) days notice by restricted mail to the occupying owner or tenant of the land upon which the pit is located, and for good cause shown, reasonable extensions of the times set out above may be granted.

(3) A burn pit used solely to burn waste oil or other flammable material. Provided, a burn pit shall never be used for storage of any substance.

(e) Notice of construction of an on-site emergency pit or burn pit shall be filed, in triplicate, with the appropriate District Office on Form 1014. The appropriate District Office shall be notified in writing of each use of an emergency pit.

(f) No on-site earthen pit shall be constructed or maintained so as to receive water from a watershed, and the fluid level of each earthen pit shall be maintained at all times at least twelve (12) vertical inches below the maximum safe fluid level of the pit.

(g) The appropriate District Office shall be notified in writing whenever an on-site earthen pit is abandoned.

3-110.2 USE OF OFF-SITE EARTHEN PITS

(a) Any earthen pit not defined in Rule 3-110.1 is defined as an off-site earthen pit. An off-site earthen pit used for the handling, storage or disposal of any deleterious substance produced, obtained, or used in connection with the drilling or operation of wells, shall be constructed of, or sealed with, an impervious material, and shall be used and operated at all times so as to prevent any escape of any deleterious substance. All off-site earthen pits must be lined with 16% bentonite and cement to a thickness of at least two (2) inches, or must be lined with an equivalent material at the discretion of the District Manager.

(b) No off-site earthen pit shall be constructed, enlarged, reconstructed, or used until the District Office has issued a written

permit for its use and assigned a permit number. The operator shall file Form 1014, in triplicate, with the appropriate District Office. When approved, one copy will be returned to the operator as a permit which shall bear the permit number assigned. The operator shall post a waterproof sign bearing the name of the operator and the permit number within 25 feet of the pit. If Form 1014 is not approved by the appropriate District Office, or if a protest is received at the district level, the operator may file an application for hearing with the Commission, which shall be set for hearing.

(c) Notice that an application has been filed with the Commission shall be published by the applicant in a newspaper of general circulation and published in the county in which the pit is located and not less than ten (10) days notice by restricted mail to the occupying owner or tenant of the land upon which the pit is located. The applicant shall file proof of publication prior to the hearing.

(d) Every off-site earthen pit not having a permit and permit number shall be emptied and leveled.

(e) Every off-site earthen pit shall be completely enclosed by a permanent woven wire fence of at least four (4) feet in height.

(f) No off-site earthen pit shall be constructed or maintained so as to receive water from a watershed, and the fluid level of each earthen pit shall be maintained at all times at least twelve (12) vertical inches below the maximum safe fluid level of the pit.

(g) The appropriate District Office shall be notified in writing whenever an off-site earthen pit is abandoned.

(h) The provisions of Rule 3-110.2 shall not apply to an off-site reserve pit used for primary drilling operations.

3.110.3 Any spreading and/or soil farming of oil field drilling waste shall be prohibited.

To include in Rule 1-504 (f) the following language:

Rule 1-504 (f). Unless the order granting a well location exception provides otherwise, the permission to drill the well at the excepted location shall expire twelve (12) months after the date of the order, unless a well was commenced at the excepted location on or before the expiration date. (Rest of rule the same.)

To include within Rule 3-204 (a) the following language:

Rule 3-204 (a). Before any oil, gas, injection, disposal or service well is drilled, deepened, plugged back or re-entered, the operator shall file a Notice of Intention to Drill in quadruplicate with the Conservation Division on Form 1000...
(Rest of rule is the same.)

(2) In gas fields subject to pool rules, the Conservation Division shall complete and mail machine accounting Form 1040 (Monthly Allocation Schedule) to operators and purchasers. Purchasers only, shall then complete Form 1004A, a portion of Form 1040 (or other approved machine accounting form), by listing gas purchases by well and return a copy to the Conservation Division.

1-303. COMMON PURCHASER AND CARRIER RULES.

(a) 52 O. S. 1961, §§54, 55, 56 and 240 are hereby adopted as common purchaser and common carrier rules as fully as if set out verbatim herein.

(b) No person shall purchase, take or transport any oil or gas in excess of the allowable fixed by the Commission, or when notified by the Conservation Division that such oil or gas is being produced in violation of any rule, regulation or order of the Commission; provided that this rule shall not require splitting a tank.

1-304. FILING OF NOMINATIONS BY PURCHASERS.

(a) All purchasers, buyers and takers of crude oil in Oklahoma shall file their nominations with the Conservation Division on Form 1034 not later than noon Friday of the week preceding the regularly scheduled market demand hearing.

(b) All purchasers of natural gas in Oklahoma shall file their nominations for wells in special allocated pools not later than one week prior to the date of the market demand hearing.

1-400. CONSERVATION DIVISION

1-401. DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF THE CONSERVATION DIVISION

(a) It shall be the duty of the Conservation Division to administer and enforce the statutes of this State and the rules, regulations and orders of the Commission relating to the conservation of

oil and gas and the prevention of pollution in connection with the exploration, drilling, producing, transporting, purchasing, processing and storage of oil and gas, and to administer and enforce the applicable provisions of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

(b) The Conservation Division shall have the right at all times to go upon and inspect any oil and gas properties, pipelines, tank farms, refineries and other processing plants and pump stations for the purpose of making any investigations or tests to ascertain whether the rules, regulations and orders of the Commission are being complied with, and shall report to the Commission any violation thereof.

(c) The Conservation Division may require the testing or retesting of any oil, gas, injection or disposal well upon 48 hour notice. Until the test is completed or excused, no allowable will be assigned the well, and the purchaser or taker of oil or gas from such well shall not run oil or gas until authorized by the Conservation Division.

(d) The Conservation Division shall have access to all well records, wherever located. All companies, operators, drilling contractors, drillers, service companies, or other persons shall permit any authorized employee of the Commission to come upon any lease or property operated or controlled by them, and to inspect the records of wells; provided that information so obtained shall be confidential.

(e) Upon request of the Conservation Division, service companies or other persons shall furnish and file reports and records showing gun perforating, hydraulic fracturing, cementing, shooting chemical treatment and all other service operations on any well.

five (5) days after the application is filed. An affidavit of compliance with this rule shall be filed at or before the hearing.

3-302. CASING AND CEMENTING OF INJECTION WELLS

Every well used for injection of gas, air, water or other fluids, shall be cased and tested in accordance with Rules 3-112 and 3-206.

3-303. NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT AND DISCONTINUANCE OF INJECTION OPERATIONS

(a) The operator shall, within ten (10) days, notify the Commission in writing of the date upon which injection commenced; and the order authorizing the project shall become null and void eighteen (18) months from the date thereof, unless the notice of commencement is received within the eighteen (18) month period.

(b) The operator shall (within ten (10) days) notify the Commission of the date injection was terminated, and the reason therefor; together with the status of all wells at the time of abandonment, at which time the order authorizing the project shall expire.

(c) An injection well shall be plugged in accordance with the provisions of these rules governing the plugging of oil and gas wells.

3-400. ABANDONMENT AND PLUGGING OF WELLS

3-401. SCOPE

(a) The owner and operator of any oil, gas, disposal, injection or other service well, or any seismic, core or other exploratory hole, whether cased or uncased, shall be jointly and severally liable and responsible for the plugging thereof in accordance with these rules.

(b) Each well in which production casing has been run, but which has not been operated for six (6) months; and each well in which no production casing has been run, and for which drilling operations have ceased for thirty (30) consecutive days, shall be immediately plugged. Each well shall be immediately plugged before it is abandoned.

(c) The Director of Conservation may, for good cause, grant reasonable extensions of time within which to plug a well.

3-402. NOTICE

A separate "Notification of Intention to Plug" for each well shall be filed, in duplicate, with the Conservation Division on Form 1001 at least five (5) days prior to the commencement of plugging operations. The Director of Conservation may waive or reduce the five day notice requirement whenever a qualified representative of the Conservation Division is available to supervise the plugging operation. Each operator of each offset producing lease shall be notified prior to the plugging of any well other than a dry hole.

3-403. SUPERVISION AND WITNESSING

Each plugging operation shall be conducted under the supervision of an authorized representative of the Conservation Division. The plugging operator shall notify the appropriate District Office of the Conservation Division of the exact time or times during which all plugging operations will take place within sufficient time to enable a representative of the Conservation Division to be present.

3-404. METHOD OF PLUGGING

(a) The provisions and requirements of this rule shall govern the plugging of all wells drilled for oil or gas purposes, including oil and gas wells, dry holes, water, gas or other

injection wells, salt water supply or disposal wells, or other service wells, other than seismic or core holes or fresh water wells. They shall likewise apply to the plugging of the lower formations in a well which is plugged back to a shallower formation.

(b) The specific procedures and requirements of this rule are minimum requirements. Every well shall be plugged in such manner as will permanently prevent the migration of oil, gas, salt water or other fluids into or out of any productive formation by means of the well bore, and to protect all fresh water strata encountered in the well from contamination or escape of water therefrom. The methods and materials used shall conform to good and accepted practices and standards in the industry.

(c) The term "mud" as used herein shall mean mud of not less than thirty-six (36) viscosity (A. P. I. Full Funnel Method) and a weight of not less than nine (9) pounds per gallon. Unless otherwise specified, the injection of cement into the well shall be by the tubing and pump method or the pump and plug method. "Productive formation" shall mean any formation encountered in the well which is known to contain oil or gas, or which is permeably connected or otherwise in communication with a formation or formations known to contain oil or gas in the same general area. Multiple zones or lenses constituting a common source of supply of oil or gas shall be regarded as one productive formation.

(d) Before any casing is removed from a well, all salt water and oil in the well shall be removed or displaced and the well shall be filled with mud. As the casing is removed the well shall be kept filled with mud.

(e) Any uncased hole below the shoe of any casing to be left in the well shall be filled with cement to a depth of at least fifty (50) feet below the shoe of the casing, or the bottom of the hole, and the casing above the shoe shall be filled with cement to at least fifty (50) feet above the shoe of the casing. If the well is completed with a screen or liner and the screen or liner is not removed, the well bore shall be filled with cement from the base of the screen or liner to at least fifty (50) feet above the top of the screen or liner.

(f) Each productive formation shall be sealed off from the well bore above and below such formation by filling the well bore with cement from a point fifty (50) feet below the base of the formation to a point fifty (50) feet above the base of the formation, and from a point fifty (50) feet below the top of the formation to a point fifty (50) feet above the top of the formation, provided that, (1) if the productive formation is already sealed off from the well bore with adequate casing and casing is not to be removed from the well, these requirements shall not apply, and (2) if the only openings from the productive formation into the well bore are perforations in the casing, and if the annulus between the casing and the outer walls of the well is filled with cement for a distance of fifty (50) feet below the base of the formation and a distance of fifty (50) feet above the top of the formation, then a bridge plug capped with ten (10) feet of cement set at the top of the producing formation is authorized. The placing of the cement on top of a bridge plug may be by the bailor method.

...casing extending from a point at least fifty (50) feet below the base of the lowest fresh water strata to three (3) feet from the top of the well bore and by completely filling the annular space behind such casing with cement. If the surface or other casing in the well meets these requirements, a cement plug shall be set at least fifty (50) feet below the shoe of the casing and extend at least fifty (50) feet above the shoe of the casing. If the casing and cement behind the casing does not meet the requirements of this sub-section, the well bore shall be filled with cement from a point fifty (50) feet below the base of the lowest fresh water strata to a point fifty (50) feet above the shoe of the surface pipe. The top thirty (30) feet of the well bore below three (3) feet of the surface of the ground shall, in all events, be filled with cement, and the surface pipe shall be cut off three (3) feet below the surface of the ground and capped with a steel plate welded to the top of the surface pipe.

(h) All intervals between cement plugs in the well bore shall be filled with mud.

(i) Any "rat or mouse hole" used in the drilling of a well with rotary tools shall be filled with mud to a point eight (8) feet below the ground level and with cement from such point to a point three (3) feet below the ground level and filled in with earth above the top of the cement.

(j) The top of the plug of any plugged well shall show clearly, by permanent markings inscribed or embedded in the cement, the well number and date of plugging.

3-405. PLUGGING RECORD

Within fifteen (15) days after a well has been plugged, the owner or operator shall file a Plugging Record, in duplicate, with the District Office on Form 1003. If there is not a complete and correct log of the well on file with the

Commission, then the owner at the time of plugging, shall furnish and file a complete and correct log thereof, or the best information available.

3-406. PROCEDURES FOR IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF WELLBORES IN WHICH CERTAIN LOGGING TOOLS HAVE BEEN ABANDONED.

(a) Abandonment of Radioactive Source

(1) Immediate notice (two copies) of the loss of a radioactive source shall be filed by the operator with the Commission designating the location by county, section, township and range, lease name and well number. One copy will be furnished to Occupational and Radiological Health Service of State Health Department.

(2) No radioactive source shall be declared abandoned until all reasonable effort has been expended to retrieve the tool.

(3) The operator shall erect, under supervision of the Commission, a standardized permanent marker as a visual warning to any person who may re-enter the hole for any reason, showing that it contains a radioactive source. This marker shall contain the following information: well name, surface location, name of the lease, the source of material abandoned in the well, the total depth of the well, the depth at which the source is abandoned, the plug back depth, the date of the abandonment of the source, the activity of the source, and a warning not to drill below the plug back depth.

(b) Abandonment Procedures

(1) Wells in which radioactive sources are abandoned shall be mechanically equipped so as to prevent either accidental or intentional mechanical disintegration of the radioactive source.

3-409. LICENSE FOR PULLING PIPE AND PLUGGING WELLS.
no person shall contract to pull casing or plug
oil, gas, injection, disposal or other service
wells, or contract to salvage casing therefrom,
or purchase wells for the purpose of salvaging
casing therefrom until a license has been
secured from the Commission. The application
for such license shall state the name of the
applicant, the names and the addresses of all
partners, chief officers, and directors, the
experience of applicant, and evidence of
financial responsibility of the applicant.
A license will be granted upon proof that the
applicant possesses sufficient technical and
scientific knowledge, and is financially
responsible. The license shall not be
transferable, and may at any time be revoked
by the Commission upon complaint, notice and
hearing.

(a) Sources abandoned in the bottom of the well shall be covered with a substantial standard color dyed (red iron oxide) cement plug on top of which a whipstock or other approved deflection device shall be set. The dye is to alert the re-entry operator prior to encountering the source.

(b) Upon abandoning the well in which a logging source has been cemented in place behind a casing string above total depth, a standard color dyed cement plug shall be placed opposite the abandoned source and a whipstock or other approved deflection device placed on top of the plug.

(c) In the event the operator finds that after expending a reasonable effort, because of hole conditions, it is not possible to abandon the source as prescribed in (b) (1) (a) or (b) (1) (b) above, he shall seek Commission approval to an alternate abandonment procedure.

(d) When a logging source must be abandoned in a producing zone, a standard color dyed cement plug shall be set and a whipstock or other approved deflection device placed above to direct the sidetrack at least fifteen (15) feet away from the source.

(2) Upon permanent abandonment of any well in which a radioactive source is left in the hole, and after removal of the wellhead, a permanent plaque shall be attached to the top of the casing left in the hole in such a manner that re-entry cannot be accomplished without disturbing the plaque. This plaque shall serve as a visual warning to any person re-entering the hole that a radioactive source has been abandoned in place in the well. The plaque shall contain the trefoil radiation symbol with a radioactive warning and shall be constructed of a long-lasting material such as monel, stainless steel or brass.

(a) Two (2) copies of the plugging report shall be filed with the Commission and shall contain all the information required by paragraph (a) (3) above.

(3) The Commission will maintain a current listing of all abandoned radioactive source wells.

3-407. PLUGGING OF SEISMIC, CORE AND OTHER EXPLORATORY HOLES

A seismic, core or other exploratory hole not drilled below the lowest fresh water strata and not penetrating an oil or gas bearing formation shall be exempt from the plugging requirements of these rules, and shall be plugged in a manner to protect fresh water strata. Every other seismic, core or exploratory hole shall be plugged in accordance with these rules. Provided, that any person drilling seismic, core or other exploratory holes may withhold information as to the location of such holes for a period of one (1) year if within ninety (90) days after plugging the holes the person files with the Commission a statement that he has drilled one or more holes in a described township but desires to withhold information as to their location for a period not in excess of one (1) year.

3-408. WELLS TO BE USED FOR FRESH WATER

When the well to be plugged may safely be used as a fresh water well and such utilization is desired by the landowner, the cement plug, extending fifty (50) feet into surface casing, shall be set in accordance with Rule 3-404, paragraph (g), except top thirty (30) foot plug need not be set, provided that written authority for such use shall be secured from the landowner and filed with the Plugging Record, which shall relieve the operator from responsibility above the plug.